## CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

# Laurine W. Ward

Sunrise: March 1, 1942 Sunset: June 25, 2017



Service: Thursday, July 6, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

LOVE OF JESUS FAMILY CHURCH 488 Highland Avenue • Orange, New Jersey Pastor Jason Alvarez, Officiating



## <u>Obituary</u>

"To everything there is a season,
And a time to every person under the heaven:
A time to be born and a time to die;
A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted."
Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2

**Laurine Wright Ward** was born on March 1, 1942 in Georgetown, South Carolina, the eight of nine children of the martial union between Mr. Thomas Wright Sr. and Carrie Gourdine Wright. Her parents and four siblings all predeceased her. She departed this life on Sunday, June 25, 2017 at 9:00 o' clock am in Florida.

In her early youth, she accepted Chris and joined Bethel AME Church, Plantersville, South Carolina, under the leadership of Rev. Hudson.

She was joined in holy wedlock to the late Lonnie Ward Sr.

She graduated from Choppee High School, received her Bachelor degree from Benedict College in South Carolina, and taught one year at Howard High School. Laurine moved to Newark New Jersey, she attended and worked on her master degree at Seaton Deaton Hall University. She taught third, fourth and fifth grades in Newark New Jersey for 30 years. She was a member of the New Jersey Educational Association, Newark Teachers Union. She received numerous awards, traveled to many states and countries. In 2003, she retired from the Newark School system in New Jersey.

Laurine had a personality with a tender heart and an enormous compassion for everyone around her. No favor was too great for her to do, no request too small to grant you, if within her capabilities. She would provide you a place to sleep and feed you. Not only was teaching her passion, Laurine enjoy spending time with her grandchildren and answering Bible questions. She also enjoyed being greeter at Love of Jesus Family Church in Orange new Jersey.

She will be remembered as one full of love and good will. To know her was to love her. Her lips are now sealed. This faithful and loving mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin, and friend has gone home to live with the Lord.

There are many who remain to cherish fond memories of her and to grow from the love she shared. God welcomed Laurine with open arms into his presence. She leaves the following to celebrate her life and cherish her memory; her devoted, caring, loving son, Lonnie Ward Jr, (New Jersey), her four lovely grandchildren Kristopher (She raised him like a son since he was one year old.), Brandon, Ashley and Kennedy Ward; one sister Rev. Marva (Orlando) Wright Dennison –Osborn, of Georgetown SC, one brother, Leroy Wright of New York, NY; two sister in Law, Maggie Wright and Lucy Wright of Georgetown, SC; one Brother in Law, Henry Richardson of Detroit, MI; a special grandniece, Cecilianna Daniels of Myrtle Beach, SC; several special nephew Rev. Samuel (Minnie Wright) Wright of Plant City, Florida, Joseph (Gladys) Wright of Charlotte NC, Ezekiel Dennison, Jr. of Upper Marlboro, MD; a special aunt/uncle of the family Carol (Paul) Campbell of Ellenwood. Georgia, special cousins Clinton (Shaunya) Rucker of Georgia, Kenny Rucker of Georgia and Donald Rucker of New Jersey. A host of devoted nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

### Thank you all for your kind words, prayers and support during our time of sorrow.

On June 25, 2017 at 9 am my mother, first love, best friend, teacher and motivator was called home. I had dinner with my mom the night before and she was in good spirits but on Sunday morning her breathing began to get heavy and it was as if she knew she would be looking at my face for the last time. As we waited for 911 to arrive, she asked me to sit down next to her and she said you are the best son that anyone can ever ask for. You've had my back and moved mountains for me and there was never any obstacles to big that you did not move. She said I love you and asked for a hug and while I was holding her in my arms, I heard her take her last breath.

I never understood a statement my mom made five years ago until a few days ago, she said "when I had you, I was the first person you saw in life and you will be the last person in life that I see." That was an absolute true statement. I use to always tell my mom I never wanted her to die alone and I was happy that I was able to keep that promise to her. I'm at peace knowing I was there for her and she was able to die in my arms. I hope that will give many of you who knew and loved her peace as well.

#### **Special Thanks:**

To my PSEG family:

Thanks to my manager, Adam for being very understanding. When I told him about my mother he said "whatever you need" greatly appreciated!

Esha thanks for always encouraging me when I had my sad moments. I could be at my lowest moments but you would hit me with "You too big to cry" or "get your thumb out your mouth" which always made me smile.

Alisha, Saddiq, Jackie, Bro. Tyrone Muhammad, Sharnette, Jahari, Que and my entire PSEG family thank you!

To My Friends:

Ardith, My ZME Family, Tariq, Eric and Kenny thank you for being there and for your kind words and support during my time of sorrow.

To My Family:

Paul & Carole Campbell, thank you for helping with my Dad's funeral and now with my mom. They trusted you a lot and I know everything you've done for me is from the heart. Tell Albert and Clinton they need to accept that they have another brother.

Uncle Leroy you know my mother loved you and would have given you the world if she could. Anything you need I got you.

Aunt Marva & Ezekiel, thank you for all your support.

## Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading
Old Testament - Ezekiel Dennison
New Testament - Kenny Rucker

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks (Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements

A Letter To My Mother Written by Lonnie Ward Read By Tyrone Muhammad

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy Rev. Buford Champagne

Recessional

#### **INTERMENT**

Hollywood Cemetery Union, New Jersey

#### **Pallbearers**

Eric Tasker Kenneth Nance
Tarik Huggins Paul Campbell
Jonathan Gibbs Joseph Wright



I'd like the memory of me To be a happy one, I'd like to leave an afterglow Of smiles when day is done. I'd like to leave an echo Whispering softly down the ways, Of happy times and laughing times And bright and sunny days. I'd like the tears of those who grieve To dry before the sun Of happy memories that I leave behind, When the day is done. -Helen Lowrie Marshall

## Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

#### Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

Orange, NJ

973-675-6400

130 Main Street 1025 Bergen Street Newark, NJ 973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME

37 Clinton Avenue Jersey City, NJ 201-433-1000

